



MEDIA RELEASE

City of Medicine Hat - 580 First Street S.E. - Medicine Hat, Alberta, T1A 8E6 - (403) 502-8071

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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STREET SWEEPING IMPORTANT FOR ENVIRONMENT

City stepping up enforcement for parking violators

Medicine Hat – With boulevards and school zones now complete, the City of Medicine Hat is turning its attention to sweeping streets in residential areas.

Starting Thursday, March 27, City crews are sweeping streets Monday to Friday 5 a.m. to 8:30 p.m., weather permitting, until all residential streets are cleaned.

"Residents want the streets in front of their homes and businesses cleaned quickly and efficiently and we can achieve that goal when the streets are free of parked vehicles," says Tim Scory, Manager of Operations, Municipal Works. "Every vehicle that is left on the street represents three spaces that cannot be swept."

The City displays large signs at the main entrances to neighbourhoods 24- hours in advance of sweeping an area. The City also displays "No Parking in this Block" signs on the exact streets that will be cleaned.

Under Traffic Bylaw 2434 Section 18.5, By law Services will ticket or tow violators who don't move their motor vehicles within 12 hours of the signs being displayed.

"If you see these signs in your neighbourhood, you should remove your vehicle from the street," adds Scory. "This will ensure your street is cleaned."

For the safest and fastest cleanup of streets:

- Sweep loose gravel off sidewalks and boulevards onto the street
- Keep children a safe distance from the sweepers (at least 15 metres)
- Remove motor vehicles from the street when signs are posted

Street sweeping is also a critical part of the City's commitment to the environment.

"Street sweeping removes potential storm water pollutants," adds Scory. "If the sand isn't removed it will be discharged into streams and rivers."

The City's street sweeping program began in early March. Crews started with median islands and school zones before moving to residential areas.

For general information on street sweeping call Municipal Works at 529-8177 or visit www.medicinehat.ca.

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